

94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY State of Illinois 2005 and 2006 HB2525

Introduced 2/18/2005, by Rep. Angelo Saviano

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

815 ILCS 645/2 from Ch. 29, par. 52 815 ILCS 645/6 from Ch. 29, par. 56 815 ILCS 645/8 from Ch. 29, par. 58

Amends the Physical Fitness Services Act. Provides that in the event of the relocation of a customer's residence and under specified conditions of his or her relocation, the customer may cancel his or her contract for physical fitness services and shall be liable for only that portion of the charges allocable to the time before reasonable evidence of such relocation is presented to the center, plus a reasonable fee if so provided in the contract, but such fee shall not exceed 50% (instead of 10%) of the unused balance, or \$150 (instead of \$50), whichever is less. Provides that a contract for "personal training services" is not subject to annual fee limits when purchased by a business entity or a fraternal or charitable organization. Effective immediately.

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1 AN ACT concerning business.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

- Section 5. The Physical Fitness Services Act is amended by changing Sections 2, 6, and 8 as follows:
- 6 (815 ILCS 645/2) (from Ch. 29, par. 52)
- Sec. 2. Definitions. (a) "Physical fitness center" or "center" means any person or business entity offering physical fitness services to the public.
- 10 (b) "Physical fitness services" or "services" includes
 11 instruction, training or assistance in physical culture,
 12 bodybuilding, exercising, weight reducing, figure development,
 13 judo, karate, self-defense training, or any similar activity;
 14 use of the facilities of a physical fitness center for any of
 15 the above activities; or membership in any group formed by a
 16 physical fitness center for any of the above purposes.
- 24 (Source: P.A. 84-850.)
- 25 (815 ILCS 645/6) (from Ch. 29, par. 56)
- Sec. 6. Contract requirements: cancellation and refund.

 (a) Every contract for physical fitness services shall provide

 that: (1) the contract may be cancelled by the customer within

 business days after the first business day after the contract

 is signed by the customer, and that all monies paid pursuant to

 said contract shall be refunded to the customer. For the

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purposes of this Section, business day shall mean any day on which the facility is open for business. A customer purchasing a plan at a facility which has not yet opened for business at the time the contract is signed, or who does not purchase a contract at an existing facility, shall have seven calendar days in which to cancel the contract and receive a full refund of all monies paid. The customer's rights to cancel described herein are in addition to any other contract rights or remedies provided by law; (2) in the event of the relocation of a customer's residence to farther than 25 miles from the center's facilities, and upon the failure of the original center to designate a center, with comparable facilities and services within 25 miles of the customer's new residence, which agrees to accept the original center's obligations under the contract, the customer may cancel the contract and shall be liable for only that portion of the charges allocable to the time before reasonable evidence of such relocation is presented to the center, plus a reasonable fee if so provided in the contract, but such fee shall not exceed 50% 10% of the unused balance, or \$150 \$50, whichever is less; and (3) if the customer, because of death or disability, is unable to use or receive all services contracted for, the customer, or his estate as the case may be, shall be liable for only that portion of the charges allocable to the time prior to death or the onset of disability. The center shall in such event have the right to require and verify reasonable evidence of such death or disability.

(b) Every contract for physical fitness services shall provide that notice of cancellation pursuant to subsection (a) of this Section shall be made in writing and delivered by certified or registered mail to the center at the address specified in the contract. All refunds to which a customer or his estate is entitled shall be made within 30 days of receipt by the center of the cancellation notice.

(Source: P.A. 84-850.)

1 (815 ILCS 645/8) (from Ch. 29, par. 58)

Sec. 8. Prohibited contract provisions. (a) No contract for physical fitness services shall require payment of a total amount in excess of \$2500 per year, and every such contract must so provide in writing; except that this limit shall not apply to any contract for: (1) personal training services, or (2) group membership, other than family membership, where the purchaser is a corporation or other business entity or any social, fraternal or charitable organization not created for the purpose of encouraging this contractual arrangement.

- (b) No contract for physical fitness services shall require payments or financing over a period in excess of 3 years from the date the contract is entered into, nor shall the term of any such contract be measured by the life of the customer. The initial term of services to be rendered under the contract may not extend over a period of more than 2 years from the date the parties enter into the contract; provided that the customer may be given an option to renew the contract for consecutive periods of not more than one year each for a reasonable consideration not less than 10% of the cash price of the original membership.
- (c) No contract for physical fitness services shall require or entail the execution of any note by the customer which, when separately negotiated, will cut off as to third parties any right of action or defense which the customer may have against the physical fitness center. No right of action or defense arising out of a contract for physical fitness services which the customer has against the center shall be cut off by assignment of the contract whether or not the assignee acquires the contract in good faith and for value. Such an assignee is not a holder in due course.
- 32 (Source: P.A. 84-1463.)
- 33 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon 34 becoming law.